RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROSECUTION ART UNIT 1617

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Julie Straub, Howard Bernstein, Donald E. Checkering, III, Sarwat Khattak,

and Greg Randall

RECEIVED

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Serial No.:

09/706,045

Art Unit:

1617

JAN 2 2 2004

Filed:

November 3, 2000

Examiner:

E. Webman

OFFICIAL

For:

POROUS DRUG MATRICES AND METHODS OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on October 15, 2003, please amend the application as follows. Submitted with this Response is a Petition for Extension of Time to extend the period for response one month, to and including February 15, 2004, and a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 by Julie Straub and Howard Bernstein. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$55.00, the fee for a small entity for a one-month extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

1515627vl

1

ACU 109 DIV (2) 077586/00009 U.S.S.N. 09/706,045 Filed: November 3, 2000

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

1515627v]

2

ACU 109 DIV (2) 077586/00009